1: Rosen E-5 (1901-1902) 1924 SK6 Choroti SK6

and 40). Miss Agnes Branting, who has kindly examined the textiles here reproduced, found the frontlet in fig. 40 especially interesting, as similar fillets are woven by the peasantry in very many provinces of Sweden, for instance Scania, Halland, Wermland and Helsingland. Miss Branting writes on this matter as follows: »Fillets of this kind are made without any other implement than just any sort of object to which the yarn can be attached, say a weighted pincushion held on the knee. The weaving is begun from the centre of the fillet by crossing one yarn over another; for each turn a yarn is added (from a number fastened with pins) on either side. When the edge yarn has been reached, this is turned inwards, and the plaiting then proceeds from the edges towards the centre. This gives a certain firmness and compactness to the edges, and makes the middle portion slightly thinner, as may be noticed if looked at against the light.»[1]

Fig. 38. Legging, of deer-skin with yellowish-brown hair-covering remaining. Worn for protection against thorny plants. Choroti. Gran Chaco. Bolivia. 1/6. Riksm. 03. 3. 383.

Sometimes the frontlets are decorated with snail-shell spangles, sewn on, although such pieces of magnificence as the frontlet here shown in fig. 41 are very rare. From fig. 42 can be seen the way this frontlet is meant to be worn. These very decorative snail shell spangles are made from the shells of a large, white land snail (Borus oblongus, fig. 43), common in the Chaco. The Choroti do not themselves make these snail-shell spangles, but obtain them through barter from other tribes.

Narrow frontlets of woollen-yarn (see fig. 30: the 3rd and 4th men from the left) or birdskin (see figs. 17 and 30: the boy who is fifth from the left) are of very common occurrence; less frequently seen are frontlets made from palm leaves, some of which are provided with chin straps, so as not to slip easily off the head (fig. 44).

At dances and other festive occasions, the men are fond of wearing particularly handsome, broad frontlets or head ornaments of stiff or downy

[1] Compare with this a method of hand weaving described from the Choroti by Erland Nordenskiöld. Nordenskiöld (13), p. 111.

1: Rosen E-5 (1901-1902) 1924 SK6 Choroti SK6

with the tail skin of a lizard. The blade and handle form an obtuse angle, and the edge has been ground on the outer side of the angle. This peculiar shape of knife corresponds to the shape of wooden knives that have been found in ancient Indian graves on Puna de Jujuy and in Quebrada del Toro.[1]

Fig. 145. Rope, of bast. Choroti. Gran Chaco. Bolivia. 1/1. Riksm. 03. 3. 244.

Fig. 146. Knife with one-edged blade of soft iron, and handle of wood, covered with lizard skin. Choroti. Gran Chaco. Bolivia. 1/1. Riksm. 03. 3. 189.

Fig. 147. Awl, consisting of the right ulna of some large feline, probably puma. Choroti. Gran Chaco. Bolivia. 1/1. Riksm. 03. 3. 183.

The Choroti also use wooden knives, resembling broad-bladed chisels.[2] Knives of this shape, which the Choroti now also make of iron, are principally used for cutting up fish, or for opening and dividing pumpkins, water melons, and other kinds of fruit. For cutting up meat, sharp-edged cane splinters, or — and nowadays most generally — iron knives, are used. As I have previously mentioned, the Choroti also use the sharp-toothed jawbones of the palometa fish (Serrosalmo sp.), as knives for hair-cutting, fig. 84.

[1] See, for example, von Rosen (10), figs. 59, 127—131.

[2] Nordenskiöld (11), figs. 12 and 13.

2: Nordenskiöld E-5 (1908-1909) 1919
SK6 Choroti SK6
Ashluslay SK5

other Chaco tribes and from Guiana[1]). As regards the Chaco this custom is mentioned by SÁNCHEZ LABRADOR from the Mbayá[2]).

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Leather-making.

The Choroti and Ashluslay do not understand the art of tanning. They show skill, however, in making leather soft by scraping. I did not observe any point of anthropogeographical interest in their method of preparing leather.

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[1]) GORJE (1), Pl. 3, 1, 2. Ojana.
[2]) Vol. 1, p. 214.